

RUSS SOLDIERS MORE CLEVER AT BURROWING THAN ARE THEIR FOES

Germans, However, Have Learned Their Lesson and Are Improving on Method of Digging Trenches.

'TRIANGLE OF DEATH' DESCRIBED BY BENNETT

Eastern Theater of War Not Unlike an Illinois Prairie Covered With Snow and Dotted With Graves.

(This is the second article of a new series by Mr. Bennett on the subject, "Russia With the German Army.")

(BY JAMES O'DONNELL BENNETT.)

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Bolnow, Russia, March 4.—Here are the dimensions of the triangle of death within which Germans and Russians have been shattering one another in uninterrupted field sieges since just before the first of this year.

From the town of Lowicz a line runs southeast to the smaller town of Skiernewice, twelve and a half miles away, will for a great part be paralleled by the river Skiernewica, which passes in front of Lowicz near Arcadia, one of the splendid seats of Prince Radziwill.

Boundaries of Triangle.

Run a line fourteen miles north-east and you strike the town of Sochaczew, which lies about five miles below Zelazowa Wola, where Chopin was born a century ago. Along the inside of this northerly line the river Bzura roars straggling.

Join Skiernewice on the south and Sochaczew on the north by a twenty-mile line and you have the base of the triangle of death, and that base roughly indicates the battle front. Sochaczew lies almost due west of Warsaw and is less than thirty miles from the heart of that city.

The northern half of the triangle is much cut up by the rivers Rakwa, Sucha and Pisia, where they wind and straggle across it to empty into the Bzura on the northeast. In a few hours the Bzura has carried their waters to the mighty Vistula, into which it empties, opposite Wyszakow some dozen miles north of the northern point of the triangle.

When you read in the dispatches of operations to the left of the Vistula they are likely to be taking place in the neighborhood of the triangle of death. The whole value of the triangle lies in the fact that its fanlike spread comprehends the approach to Warsaw.

Frightful Cost.

"You will cover the twenty miles that lie between you and the Warsaw fortifications," said a Russian prisoner to a German officer. "Yes, I think you will, but at what cost? The road will be paved not with bones but with skulls. But I suppose you will do it."

All this region, which is cut up by the Rakwa, the Sucha, and the Pisia, is land and otherwise good for nothing country—making hard work, in other words, for the invading army and relatively easy work for the troops fighting on their own soil. To the west of the three rivers are a few farms, the only great stretches of that farming country till you strike into the Skiernewice, where rises the czar's hunting forest.

Imagine the Illinois prairie in a blizzard and you obtain a very fair idea of the landscape which stretches out in front of Lowicz to the battle line. Imagine the prairie dotted with the shallow graves of soldiers and with unburied horses, and you have the mark of war on the landscape.

Axis Thrust Upward.

Mark the prairie with mile posts painted in broad stripes of black and white and flinging gaunt arms to the right and left, and you add just the touch that recalls the desolation of Napoleon's Moscow campaign.

When the snow drifts high around them the gaunt arms seem to thrust upward, like something human and ominous—like the arms of dead men who are trying to give wild warning of more dreadful desolation to be faced further on.

Beyond the Rakwa, beyond the Sucha, beyond the Pisia, the Russian have cut up their country with their wonderful trenches. To the east they lie for miles upon miles, hidden in thick forests, sheltered in ravines, and constantly making masterly use of every advantage the lay of the land offers them. They, in a word, are in the good defensive country.

The Russian Moles.

"They are like moles, these Russians," says a German officer. "Let them assume a position and in half an hour they have burrowed. They are cleverer and quicker than we are at this kind of thing, and we have lost many men by not imitating them earlier."

This matter of speedily intrenching and doing your fighting from trenches is partly constitutional. The German soldier is trained in advancing and fighting.

This burrowing and waiting is distasteful to his mind. He wants to get on and finish the business. But he has learned his lesson now, and that is the principal reason why the war goes more slowly.

He batters himself, though, that if the Russians taught him something, he has bettered the instructions.

All the Comforts of Home.

"Our trenches are more sanitary,"

said a German officer. "We look, first of all, to that. Most of the Russian trenches we have taken are scandalous—no attention at all to the fundamentals of hygiene."

And give a German soldier the chance and he immediately sets about making his trenches homelike—even luxurious. Down at Gienstochan (also spelled Gienstochan, with a little jagger under the "c") and Tschentochan, south of Lodz, the Germans edged and wheeled into their trenches easy chairs upholstered in leather, sofas and hanging lamps.

In the picturesque church in the town behind them hangs the miracle-working picture called the Black Madonna, a Regina Regni Polonae, which shows the Virgin and child on a panel of typewritten wood.

There it has hung these 500 years, and is hanging still, unless, as probably is the case, the clergy buried it at the outbreak of the war. Millions of dollars worth of paintings and ecclesiastical treasures in Belgium, France, Russia and Germany have been so hidden during the last six months.

Everybody in the triangle of death is bear-eyed, unshaven, and thirsty with cold. Some are even speechless. The lungs get to feel like a couple of soft-boiled eggs—like a hot pulp—and they don't work at all well.

The principal point of interest inside the triangle is a little white cottage which stands by the roadside about two miles back of the Austrian heavy guns at Bolimow—and Bolimow is nearly two-thirds of the way down on the eastern line or the base of the triangle of death.

That little white cottage by the roadside is the most conspicuous object in the hamlet of Lasiecniki except a big barn, and it is the most important object for its size in the world today.

For from this building, which is connected by telephone wires with crucial points on the countryside for miles around, the fate of the 60,000 German troops lying on the snowy plains to the east is being directed.

A little signboard bearing a famous name is tacked on a post at the gateway of the little garden in front of the white cottage.

I was asked not to mention that name in anything I might write for the Tribune. Suffice to say that it is not borne by either of the men mentioned in this article, for Von Woyrsch and his Silesians and Austrians are guarding the approaches to the south of the triangle of death, and Von Mackensen is, or was a few days ago, somewhere around the northern angle of it.

Five miles of batteries—or rather the smoke and flash of five miles of batteries—are within the range of vision as you stand in front of the cottage.

The Prince of Wied comes out of the cottage, takes his stand on the

(Continued on Page Six.)

PRINZ EITEL NOW READY FOR MAD DASH HOMEWARD

Everything in Order, Officers and Crew Aboard Waiting Signal for Desperate Enterprise.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

Newport News, Va., April 2.—Whether the German raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich will steam to sea and attempt to slip past the cordon of allied warships off the Virginia capes, then endeavor to make an attempt, remained a mystery tonight.

If her orders are to sail the Eitel appears well prepared. Her bunkers are filled with coal enough to take her to the nearest German port, her machinery has been repaired and her officers and crew are resigned to any fate and waiting for the word.

When the Eitel had finished taking on supplies that originally were not to have been delivered until the two United States tug boats stood guard at her stern. Coast artillerymen patrolled her pier and rain and darkness were favorable for a possible dash to sea.

Later today the situation aboard the Eitel was tense. Every officer and sailor was on board, although at times some were permitted to receive friends on the pier. That many of them were going to sea was evident. Just when they might be ordered to go, they claimed not to know, but all asserted there was not much time left for the vessel to reappear in American waters unless she should leave tonight.

Reports that two more British warships had joined the foreign fleet off the capes could not be verified here. Late today, however, one British warship was seen from an incoming merchant ship lying about five miles out and directly south of the Atlantic ship lane.

"MONEY DEVIL" POUNDED BY RADICAL BISHOP

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

San Francisco, April 2.—Bishop William Melville Bell of Los Angeles, executive head of the world's social progress congress in session here, scored the "money barons" today in his address to the convention on "Economic and Social Progress."

"There is too much power in the hands of the few," he said. "If all the country's resources were developed to the utmost probably organized greed would get hold of the total product and humanity would be worse off than before. If selfishness could be cured by water I would like to turn the hose on the entire capitalist class."

He suggested as a remedy more legislation for the equalization and distribution of wealth.

Millionaire Released from Pen.

Atlanta, Ga., April 2.—Frederick A. Hyde, millionaire chairman of the United States Senate, has been released from the federal penitentiary here, after having served sixteen months, in connection with land frauds, and will leave for his home tomorrow. Officials here announced that Hyde had left the prison late yesterday.

Weather Forecast.

Washington, April 2.—New Mexico: Fair Saturday and Sunday.

TREATMENT OF CAPTURED CREWS OF SUBMARINES CAUSES PROTEST

Germany Makes Inquiry, Through American Ambassador, Regarding Policy of Great Britain.

IMPRISONED MEN ARE KEPT TO THEMSELVES

Sir Edward Grey Tells Why England Adopts Severe Measures With Them Than Other War Prisoners.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

London, April 2 (3:54 a. m.).—

In an editorial on Germany's threat of reprisals against British held prisoners in Germany, the British minister of marine, Mr. Asquith, said that the British government is not prepared to treat German prisoners differently to other war prisoners.

The Daily Chronicle says: "It is a time to realize the past, to which things are leading us. At the end of the war the allies will have two alternatives: They can allow the practice of submarine sinking merchantmen to become a recognized part of international law or they can, after trial, hang the German officers responsible for initiating it, including, if his responsibility is shown, Admiral von Doering, the German minister of marine. We do not at present see any third alternative."

(Continued on Page Six.)

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

London, April 2 (5:30 p. m.).—A German protest and threat of reprisals on account of the treatment by Great Britain of the prisoners taken on German submarines today. This protest was transmitted by Germany to Great Britain through the United States.

The reply of Great Britain also was made public. The German government in its protest asked whether Great Britain intended to accord less favorable treatment to captured submarine crews than to other war prisoners and if so what form this discrimination would take. Germany stated that if Great Britain adopted such a course a British army officer held prisoner in Germany would receive correspondingly harsh treatment for each member of a German captured submarine crew.

Treated Humanely.

The foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey, in his reply said that the prisoners from German submarines had been placed in naval detention barracks and segregated from other war prisoners, but were being treated humanely and permitted to take exercise. Furthermore the foreign secretary said German soldiers in England have been better treated than British prisoners of equal rank in Germany and the Germans are not subjected to forced labor.

As the submarine crews have been engaged in sinking neutral merchant ships and unarmored British vessels, Sir Edward said, they could not be regarded as honorable opponents but were "offenders against the law of nations and common humanity."

Under date of March 29 the American ambassador wrote Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, as follows:

"The American ambassador presents his compliments to his majesty's secretary of state for foreign affairs and has the honor, under instructions from the secretary of state at Washington, to transmit the herewith annexed text of a telegram, dated March 17, which Mr. Bryan has received from the German foreign office through the embassy at Berlin."

"According to a telegram appearing in the British press, the British admiralty is said to have made known its intention not to accord to the officers and crews of German submarines who have been captured the treatment due to them as prisoners of war, and especially not to concede to the officers the advantage of their rank."

The German government is of the opinion that these reports are not correct, as the crews of the submarines acted in the execution of orders given to them, and in doing this have solely fulfilled their military duty.

Explanation Demanded.

"At any rate the reports in question have become so numerous in the neutral press that an immediate explanation of the true facts appears to be of most urgent importance, if for no other reason than consideration of public opinion in Germany."

The imperial foreign office therefore requests the American embassy to have an inquiry of the British government made by telegraph through the medium of the American embassy in London as to whether and in what way they intend to treat the officers and crews of German submarine boats who have been made prisoners in any respect worse than other prisoners of war.

Lodges Sharp Protest.

"Should this prove to be the case the request is added that in the name of the German government, the sharpest protest be lodged with the British government against such proceedings and that no doubt be left that for each member of the crew of a submarine made prisoner a British

(Continued on Page Two.)

CONDITIONS IN MEXICO BECOME BRIGHTER FOR GENERAL VILLA

Neutralization of National Capital Subject of Representations by Secretary of State Bryan.

GUTIERREZ OFFICIAL SURRENDERS TO ENEMY

Carranza Reports from Vera Cruz Tell of Strategic Move Against Torreon by Forces Under Obregon.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

Washington, April 2.—Dispatches to the Carranza agency here stating that General Obregon was threatening the line of communications of the Villistas by occupying Queretaro and a message from General Villa to his representative announcing the surrender of Gen. Jose Ysabel Robles, secretary of war to Gen. Eulalio Gutierrez, were the chief developments tonight in the military situation in Mexico.

The defection of Robles, who was said to have turned over his command on promise of amnesty, which was granted, was accompanied by the flight to Davis, Tex., it was reported, of Gen. Eugenio Aguilar Benavides, another Gutierrez cabinet officer.

Question of Neutralization.

Secretary Bryan announced formally that the plan for the declaration of Mexico City as a neutral zone, where no faction was to engage in military operations, was under consideration, but said he had no statement to make as to the progress of the negotiations.

He added that the plan for the neutralization of the railroad from Mexico City to Vera Cruz had been taken up as a separate proposition.

General Villa telegraphed his representative, Enrique C. Lorente, from Tamozeo, as follows:

"I have the pleasure to advise you that Gen. Jose Ysabel Robles, secretary of war under Gutierrez, after a conference with Villistas, has been identified. Fifteen that had been called up to withstand the French offensive were drawn from many parts of the German line, which indicates that the enemy had no central reserves that he can call up in case of emergency."

Economy on Ammunition.

"The German artillery has practiced economy, which is unusual with them. On many days they made no effort to keep down the fire off the French guns, although this meant heavier losses for their infantry in the trenches. This showed clearly that their supply of ammunition was not all that they had hoped for, and an extra expenditure may well have made itself felt in the amount available on all parts of the German front."

Two valuable lessons, therefore, have been learned from these operations. The first is that the German front can be pierced. There were moments both in Champagne and Neuve Chapelle when the way was open, when nothing more formidable than the weak resistance of a sorely tried French force stood in the way, and it does not follow because the hole was closed before advantage could be taken of it that this would be the case every time.

Affects Whole Enemy Front.

"The second lesson learned is that a serious attack on the enemy's position affects on the enemy's plan and fighting power at every point. The British attack at Neuve Chapelle ruined the enemy's chances of a big success at St. Eloi. The French attack at Perchies helped the British attack at Neuve Chapelle, and both these assisted Russians to withstand the German offensive in the eastern theater."

Speaking of the inspection by General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, of several divisions which had been through the whole of the fighting, the observer says:

French Organization Efficient.

"We must not forget that these divisions have had to be brought up to strength, sometimes almost reorganized after each of their attacks, of which they carried out several during the last thirty days. What we are really looking at is the French system of reinforcements and the system which keeps army corps not only up to their strength, but up to their full standard of fighting efficiency. It is one which plainly is answering well all that they have had to do."

France has a number of army corps or divisions somewhere in the background ready to be thrown into the fighting when the great day of victory is at hand. This idea should be kept in mind. All the army corps of France are fighting and her reserves will enable them to keep on fighting and fighting hard, so long as the war continues."

MAIL CLERK INDICTED FOR THEFT OF BIG SUM

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

Kansas City, April 2.—Charles Oldfield, a railway mail clerk, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City, Kan., here today charged with the theft of \$25,000 from an Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe mail train between Kansas City and La Junta, Colo., in April, 1912.

Because of doubt among federal authorities as to whether the crime was committed in Kansas or in Colorado, grand juries in both states had been entrusted with the investigation and as a result Oldfield was indicted by the grand jury in Kansas today.

The stolen package was consigned by registered mail from the Continental & Commercial National bank of Chicago to the First National bank of Pasadena, Calif.

FRENCH FORCES KEEP PRESSURE ON GERMAN LINE CONTINUOUSLY

Strategic Points in Western War Zone Are Gradually Being Taken by Allies and Invaders Are Slowly Losing.

KAISER'S AMMUNITION USED ECONOMICALLY

British Attack on Neuve Chapelle Spoils Offensive of Teutons Against St. Eloi, Says Official Observer.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

London, April 2 (9:40 p. m.).—The British official observer with the French army in his latest report which was issued tonight, compares the results achieved by the French offensive in Champagne with the objects with which the operations were undertaken. The objects, he says, were to keep a constant pressure on the German first line defenses in order to affect the use by the Germans of the railway from Bapaume to Chaulanville and to wear down their reserves of men and ammunition.

Pressure for Thirty-one Days.

"As regards the first object," says the report, "the pressure continued for thirty-one days, with the result that the enemy has lost the fortified area which he had been holding and continually strengthening for five months. His use of the Chaulanville and Bapaume line has not been materially affected, although at certain points it is within range of the French guns, he can without difficulty continue to run the trains required for the maintenance of the corps on that part of the front, and the junction at Chaulanville is secure."

"The using up of his reserves has been achieved in a very marked manner. At the beginning of the operation there were some eighteen regiments in that part of the line. At its conclusion thirty-five have been identified. Fifteen that had been called up to withstand the French offensive were drawn from many parts of the German line, which indicates that the enemy had no central reserves that he can call up in case of emergency."

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NO DESECRATION OF FLAG IN MEXICO CITY

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

Washington, April 2.—Inasmuch as the desecration of the American flag flying above the home of John E. McManus, an American citizen murdered in Mexico City, was the act of lawless persons, acting without authority, the United States government decided today to make no demand for an apology.

Secretary Bryan announced that the incident was closed with the receipt today of a dispatch from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City.

"The Brazilian minister," said Mr. Bryan, "did not think the facts in the case showed any attempt on the part of any officer or authorities to desecrate the flag and he did not, therefore, regard it as a case where an apology should be asked."

The payment of the \$20,000 in indemnity to the widow of McManus and the general expression of regret by the Villa-Zapata authorities, are held to be sufficient reparation in the circumstances.

Secretary Bryan today conveyed to the Brazilian minister the appreciation of the United States government "for his efficient handling of the McManus case."

TURKISH GOVERNMENT LODGES COMPLAINT

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

Washington, April 2.—Following close on the heels of the American government's request to Turkey to protect the Americans at the mission school at Urumiah, Persia, Hussein Bey, charge of the Turkish embassy here, today presented to the state department a note of protest against the killing in Mexico of two Turkish subjects. Two Syrians, Salomon Nigri and Rafael Perce, are said to have been executed at Torreon by Villa soldiers, as a result of their being held by them as hostages.

It was claimed that the note had been approved as genuine by the Villa commander.

In his note to the department, filed on instructions from his government, the Turkish charge requested the United States to protect Turkish subjects in Mexico and to ask for redress in the present case. No reply was made today to the Turkish request, although it was understood that it would be complied with.

HABEAS CORPUS WRIT INVOKED FOR HORN

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

Boston, April 2.—A petition for a writ of habeas corpus was filed in the federal court today in behalf of Werner Horn, who is under indictment for alleged illegal interstate transportation of explosives prior to the attempt to wreck the international bridge at Vancuboro, Me., on February 2. By order of Judge Morton, the United States marshal will produce Horn in court for a hearing on the petition next Monday. The petition relates the claim of this defense that Horn is a Canadian citizen, a naturalized citizen of the United States, and that he is a resident of Maine, which is in violation of constitutional and treaty rights.

Summary of War News of Yesterday

If the officers and crews of German submarines held prisoners in Great Britain are accorded the same treatment as other war prisoners, the British army officer held prisoner in Germany "will receive corresponding harsher treatment."

This is Germany's threat of reprisals against Great Britain's reported intention to hold until after the war, for possible trial for murder, the captured officers and crews of German submarines being held in camps separate from ordinary war prisoners, as they had been "engaged in sinking British and neutral merchant ships and killing non-combatants."

The secretary added that these men could not be regarded as honorable opponents, as persons who "have committed acts which are offenses against the law of nations and contrary to common humanity."

Battle of considerable proportions are proceeding in southern Poland and in the Carpathians, but on the western battle front little is going on except artillery duels and infantry attacks similar to those which have been proceeding at various points for some time past.

Strong German forces are attacking the Austrians in the Carpathians and, according to Petrograd, the Muscovites, despite almost unmountable barriers, continue their progress, taking enemy positions and capturing considerable numbers of officers and men. Vienna in turn reports repulses of the Russians at various points.

In the north, Petrograd asserts that along the battle front on the Niemen the Germans have been driven back toward the East Prussian frontier with heavy losses.

French troops have dropped thirty-three bombs on German barracks and aeroplane hangars and the railway station at Vignelles in the department of the Woerwe, doing considerable damage, according to Paris. The aviators returned safely despite a vigorous cannonade by the Germans, some of whose shells struck the aircraft.

The Dutch steamer Schieland has been blown up in the North sea, supposedly by a mine. One man of the crew of sixteen is said to have been killed.

The case of Raymond Swoboda, under arrest in Paris, charged with attempting to burn the steamship La Touraine, has attracted great attention in France. Rumor is current in Paris that the charges against Swoboda antedated the La Touraine incident and that Great Britain prior to the arrival of La Touraine, had asked the French government to apprehend Swoboda.

Answers Criticism

Berlin, April 2 (by Wireless to Sayville).—Among items given out by the Overseas News agency tonight are the following:

"Answering the English criticism against the conduct of German submarines, the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says that the behavior of the submarines is caused by the attempts of English merchant ships to ram and destroy them. The paper

RUSSIANS NOW ON OFFENSIVE ON WHOLE FRONT OF LONG LINE

According to Petrograd Advances, All Advances, From Baltic to Rumanian Border, Are Proceeding Successfully

STRONG POSITIONS ARE TAKEN FROM AUSTRIANS

British and German Foreign Offices Have Peppery Correspondence in Regard to Amenities Observed in War.

(BY MORNING JOURNAL SPECIAL LEASED WIRE.)

London, April 2 (10:05 p. m.).—The Russians now are on the offensive along the whole of their front, from the Baltic sea to the Rumanian border and in the Caucasus, and, according to a Stockholm dispatch, they have concentrated an enormous number of soldiers on the coast of Finland to prevent any attempt by the Germans to land there.

All the Russian advances, according to Petrograd advices, are proceeding with success. The Russian official report issued tonight makes the claim that the Germans in north Poland are being pushed back to the East Prussian border, and that in the Carpathians, between the Lupa and Usok passes, the Russians have captured still another strongly fortified ridge, overcoming in doing so, almost insurmountable difficulties such as the scaling of steep ice-covered hills and penetrating cleverly arranged barbed wire and timber obstructions.

Contradictory Reports.

The Russians also have taken the offensive against the German forces in the region of Kozlowka, near the Usok pass, which long has been launching attacks against the Russian position. In that district a large number of prisoners is reported to have been captured.

Against these reports of Russian success, the Austrians make the claim that they have repulsed all the Russian attacks in the Beskid range of mountains farther east.

The Russian declare they have successfully countered an Austrian raid into Besenbrunn, near Chotin. Their reports say that units of the forty-second Hovved division of the Austrian army which undertook the attack were virtually annihilated and that over 2,000 of the survivors were captured.